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A FEMININE PROPOSAL

By MARY D. VINCENT

Margaret Vincent had a great many anitors that she didn't want. These suitors were mostly fortune bunters, and even if they were not there was not one among them that she would marry. Miss Vincent had attended lectures at a college, and one of the assistant professors or instructors had caught her fancy. That was when she was seventeen, and an impression made upon a girl's beart at that age stmr. ts liable to take a very strong root At any rate, after graduation she managed to keep in touch with him.

But young I'rofessor Twining of the chair of botany, while he showed friendliness, did not erince love. Whether he felt it or not Miss Vincent could not tell. All she knew was that be never passed the bounds of a platonic friendship. She suspected that what drew her sultors-her fortune-acted as a stumbling block to the professor. She suspected at times that stmr. he would like to make love to her, but having nothing but a small salary with which to match ber batt million of dol tars refrained.

Professor Twining took great interest in the customs of eastern people. especially those of India, and natural ly luterested Miss Vincent in the same subject. So she rend all the books she could find about ludin and how the eople there passed their daily lives One Item that she came upon interest ed her especially. It was this:

"In ludie a man offen remains un married longer than he would desire simply because he cannot afford to pay the sum the father of a destrable daughter demands of his would be son in-law. Widows, however, are cheap. and a wily father who finds his daughter is getting on in years while suitors tarry takes advantage of this fact. He marries the girl to a bunch of flowers, which he then throws into a well. Thus the lady becomes technically a widow, and as such she is a bargain in the marriage market. 'Phus the flower widow is secured as a wife by a suitor who would not have dared offer a small t her before her so called mar-

riage." Now, it occurred to Miss Vigcent that Professor, Twining, being familiar with the habits of the people of India, and met with this same information. It struck her funcy to use it as a hint that she would look kindly on a proposition of marriage in case he felt disposed to make her one. It would certainly be a delicate way of showing her partiality for him. Indeed, it would be tantamount to a proposal from her to him. She spent a good deal of time conjuring up a way of indicating to the professor that she had become a flower widow and finally went at it in this

She invited the professor to come and see her under the prefext that she bad a new plant upon which she desired some information. She was at her country place, and her plants had been removed from her conservatory to their beds in her spacious gardens. When Professor Twining called she took him out and showed him the plant in question. There was nothing peculiar about it, and he wondered why she had brought him to ask him questions

about so ordinary a plant. "I do so love my flowers!" she said. "Do you know, I come out here alone Colonies—Sonoma, Dec. 23. and chat with them. They say very San Francisco—Honolulan, Dec. 11. sweet things to me."

While she talked she plucked one here and there, making up a bonquet. The professor naturally supposed that Logan sailed from Honolulu for San she was making it up for him.

"How do you love your flowers," he asked-"as dowers of as representa

"My lover is in them," was her reply. "It is he who says the sweet Dix, from Honolulu for things, while the flowers themselves look at me so innocently that his words seem more tender than they would without the flowers. These that I hold in my hand are my busband." "But if your husband is in the bou-

quet you must have a new bouquet and a new bushand every day. By to morrow these must be discarded. In that, case you will never be widowed." There was no reply to this. They walked on, chatting in this vein, till they came to a well. Leaning over it. Miss Vincent threw her bouquet down into it.

Did he know the Indian custom? And what would be do if be was familiar with it? Would be see the connection between ber act and the eastern custom? Bending over the well, she dare not look up. She saw her face reflected in the water below. and the sight made her dread that Twining should see it, for it showed agitation.

He came and leaned over the well saw the image, but be had long been P. W. Bluett and friend, Miss Bluett familiar with the custom of making a Miss Wood and maid, L. M. Harrison. ried to a poor man

Margaret, too, saw the reflection of her face and felt bis hand laid upon ber walst.

acceptance of the proposal Mrs. Twin ing perer has told any one, though she has told the story to her daughters, who think their mother as a girl must have been very lovely and dellcately sensitive. And they think that their father must have been just the man to appreciate such a feminine proposal

MOVEMENTS OF MAIL STEAMERS

VESSELS TO ARRIVE

Tuesday, December 10 Newcastle, N. S. W. - Saint Kilda, Br. stmr. Vancouver—Kestrel Br. stmr. Japan ports—Tokal Maru Jap. stmr. Hilo—Honolulan, M. N. S. S.

Wednesday, December 11 Salina Cruz, via San Francisco and Sound ports-Alaskan, A.H. 3. S. Maui and Hawali ports-Claudine

Kauai ports-W. G. Hall, stmr. Thursday, December 12. San Francisco—Thomas, U. S. A. T Friday, December 13. San Francisco-Nippon Maru Jap

Central and South American ports-Kiyo Maru, Jap., stmr. Saturday, December 14 Hilo via way ports-Mauna Kes

Sunday, December 15 Maui, Molokal and Lanai ports-Likelike, stmr. Kauai ports-Kinau, stmr.

Wednesday, December 18. San Francisco-Lurline, M. N. S. S. Thursday, December 19. San Francisco-Tenyo Maru, Jap., Sunday, December 22.

Hongkong via Japan ports-Shinyo

Meru, Jap., stmr. VESSELS TO DEPART

Tuesday, December 10 Maul, Molokal and Lanal ports-Makatea—Promise, Nor. stmr. Kauai ports—Noeau, stmr., 5 p. m. Kauai ports—Kinau, stmr., 5 p. m.

Wednesday, December 11 San Francisco-Honolulan, M. Hilo via way ports-Manua Kea,

stmr., 10 a. m. .Thursday, December 12 Kaual ports-W. G. Hall, stmr., Friday, December 13 Manila via Guam—Thomas, U. S.

Hongkong via Japan ports-Nippol Maru, Jap. stmr. Kona and Kau ports-Kilauea stmr., noon. Maui and Hawaii ports-Claudine,

stmr., 5 p. m. Saturday, December 14 Hongkong via Japan ports-Kiyo Maru, Jap. stmr. Hilo direct-Mauna Kea, stmr., 4

Monday, December 16
Kauai ports—Nocau, stmr., 5 p. m.
Thursday, December 19.
Hongkong via Japan ports—Tenyo Maru, Jap. stmr.

San Francisco Shinyo Maru, Jap. Monday, December 23. Sydney via Pago Pago—Sonoma, O.

San Francisco—Siberia, P. M. S. S. San Francisco—Lurine, M. N. S. S. Friday, December 27.
Francisco-Ventura, O. S. S.
Saturday, December 28.

Hongkong via Japan ports-Persia M. S. S.

MAILS Mails are due from the following points as follows: San Francisco-Transport, Dec. 12. Victoria-Zealandia, Jan. 1. Colonies—Ventura, Dec. 27. Yokohama—Sbinyo Maru, Dec. 22. Mails will depart for the following points as follows: Yokohama-Nippon Maru, Dec. 13.

Vancouver-Marama, Dec. 31.

TRANSPORT SERVICE Francisco, Dec. 5. Sherman, from Honolulu for Guam and Manila, sailed Nov. 14. Warren, stationed at the Philippines. Thomas, from San Francisco for Honolulu, sailed Dec. 5.

sailed Dec. 8. PASSENGERS BOOKED

Per str. Kinau, for Kauai ports, De comber 10.-Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Myers Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Wilcox, W. Anderman, W. T. Froit, W. H. Rice, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox and servant, H. Glass, E. A. Alexander, Miss Grace Pullar, Mrs. W. Pullar, C. Wilcox, Miss Frances Pullar, F. F. Lacks, Wong Wa, M. Matsuzawa, Rev. Okumura.

Per str. Mauna Kea, for Hilo December 11.—Hang Chack, Miss R. Wallace, Mam'l Parker Jr., Mrs. C. W. North, A. Morrison, J. D. Tucker, A. p. m. Abrens, Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Bond. W. L. Steward, Miss Mary Lindsay, H. H. Renton, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Snow and servant, Mrs. Mitsu, Wm. Yah Kwal Pong, Mrs. L. Wah, Mrs. Pan Kau, Mrs. Oii, Mrs. Walls, Jan. T. Taylor, W T. Robinson, C. A. Doyle, F. W. p. m. Macfarlane, C. C. Conradt, N. Chong, Miss M. Forrest, Lile Holmes, J. Male, beside her. He did not see her face. Mr. and Mrs. Watt, Mrs. M. Forrest, but he saw its reflection. He not only J. Hurd, A. F. Marsile, J. H. Maley, girl a widow that she might be mar. E. Hutchinson, S. T. Carr, T. J. Mc. 5:31 p. m., \$10:10 p. m. Grath, D. W. Driscoll, S. M. Kanakanui, Geo. F. Wilkinson, Geo. T. Rud-That is all there was of it that can L. Kleugel, Mrs. H. A. Kluegel, Consul Honolulu at 10:10 p. m. The Limited be rold. What were the words of the General H. Eitaki, W. L. Howe, Leon acceptance of the proposal Mrs. Twin A. Quonson, M. Kurokawa.

Per str. W. G. Hall, for Maul and Pearl City inward. Molokai ports, Dec. 12.—Blanche Nis- Paily. †Sunday Excepted. ‡Sunhard, Leslie Wishard, F. Broadbent, day Only. H. Fassoth, D. E. Baldwin.

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Inward.

Arrive Honolulu from Kahuku, Waialus and Watanae - 8:36 a. m. *5:31

Pearl City-17:45 a. m., *8:36 a. m., *11:02 a. m., *1:40 p. m., *4:26 p. m., *5:31 p. m., *7:30 p. m. Arrive Honolulu from Wahiawa and Leilehua-9:15 a. m., †1:40 p. m.,

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